VAN DEN BRINK et al Appl. No. 10/518,414 February 19, 2008 RESEIVED CENTRAL PAX CENTER

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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 8, in its entirety and replace it with the following new paragraphs:

Fig. 2 shows the nucleotide sequence of modB-XS (modified Sall/Xbal fragment) with a number of unique restriction sites (SEQ ID NO:2). See example 1.

Fig. 3: Synthetic DNA fragments further described in example 1 (SEQ ID NO:3-SEQ ID NO:8).

Please delete the paragraphs beginning at page 23, line 16, in their entirety and replace them with the following new paragraphs:

The five fragments obtained were (see figure 3):

- (i) a 410 bp Sall-SphII I fragment (SEQ ID NO:3)
- (ii) a 220 bp SphI-BsrGI fragment (SEQ ID NO:4)
- (iii) a 190 bp BsrGI-KpnI fragment (SEQ ID NO:5)
- (iv) a 320 bp Kpnl-Xbal fragment (SEQ ID NO:6)

For construction of the modBM gene a modified KpnI-Xbal fragment was designed (SEQ ID NO:7).

All sub fragments were cloned in vector p CRII-TOPO (Invitrogen) according to the instructions supplied by the manufacturer.

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For combining the sub-fragments, a vector was created with an optimized polylinker (Sall-Sphl-BsrGI-Kpnl-Xbal). For this purpose a synthetic polylinker (SEQ ID NO:8) was designed and cloned into the pCRII-TOPO vector. Later the polylinker fragment was inserted in the BssHI sites of plasmid pBluescript SK II, resulting in pSK-MCS.

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